

## ***Ophrella*, A New Genus of Orussidae From Panama (Hymenoptera: Symphyta, Orussidae)**

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A unique, unusual appearing orussid collected in Panama by Professor Henry A. Hespenheide of the University of California, Los Angeles was sent to me for identification. This specimen is so different from its closest relative (Middlekauff, 1984) that a new genus is proposed for it.

As a means to help clarify the generic description, I have included illustrations of critical anatomical features of the type species.

### ***Ophrella* Middlekauff, NEW GENUS**

*Generotype*.—*Ophrella lingulata*, new species.

*Diagnosis*.—In the fore wing vein 2r issues from much nearer the apex than the base of the stigma. Cross vein cu-a is not interstitial with vein M, but intersects the discoidal cell in the middle (Fig. 1). Hind wing lacks the cross vein between veins Rs and M (Fig. 2). Head lacks facial carinae, and the seta arising from each facial pit is uniquely flattened, ligulate (Fig. 3). Body hairs normal not ligulate. Third antennal segment subequal to fourth, and slightly shorter than segment 5 (Fig. 4). Mesoscutellum obtusely rounded behind and without a definite margin (Fig. 7). Post-orbital and occipital carinae present and distinct. Hind femur slightly over 2½ times longer than broad (Fig. 8). Hind tibia with a double row of spurs (Fig. 8), the mid-tibia with a single row (Fig. 5).

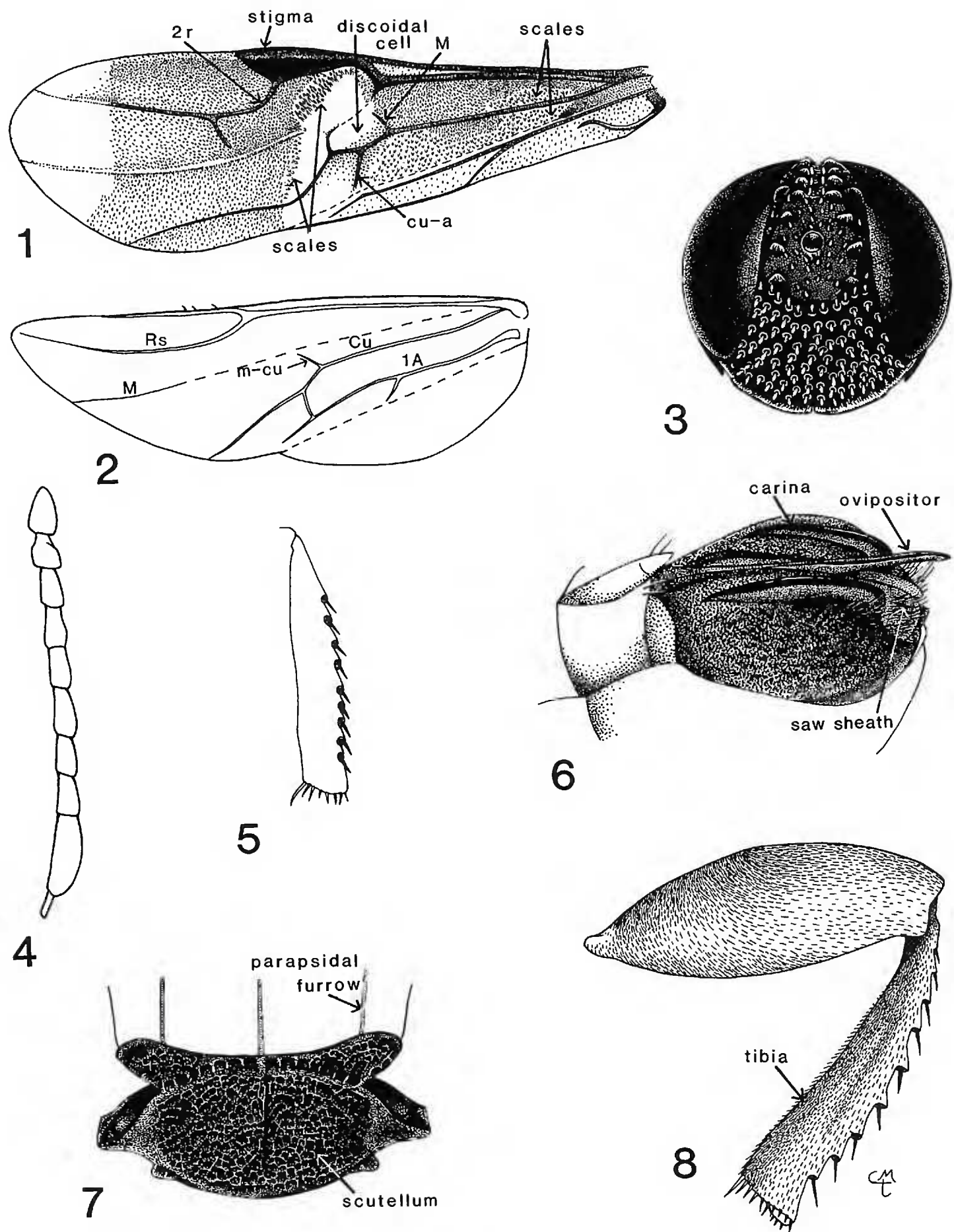
*Discussion*.—This genus is described for a unique specimen belonging in the tribe *Ophrynopini*. It is distinguished from all other known orussid-genera by a combination of many of the above enumerated characters.

*Etymology*.—The generic name is modified from the name of the presumed nearest relative, *Ophrynella nigricans* (Cameron) and is to be regarded as feminine.

### ***Ophrella lingulata*, NEW SPECIES (Figs. 1–8)**

*Female* (holotype).—Length 6.5 mm. Head, thorax, abdomen, antennae, and legs, except for fore tarsi, black. Fore tarsi amber brown. Fore wing with a strongly contrasting pattern of black bands of microtrichia on heavily infuscated areas. The hyaline areas lack such microtrichia. Several small patches of white scales further emphasize the contrast (Fig. 1).

Facial carinae absent. Median ocellus on a slightly depressed area, the area between the pits, pebbled, shiny. The parallel coronal crests at the top of the head border a narrow valley. Face with numerous pits, each with a flattened, ligulate or scale-like hair (Fig. 3). Post-orbital and occipital carinae present and distinct. Hairs on the top of the head behind the eyes, small, flattened, closely appressed to the head, appearing somewhat silvery. Lower down towards the genae the hairs become progressively less flattened and more like normal hairs. Antennal segments III, IV, V, VII and VIII subequal, VI slightly longer than III (Fig. 4). Pronotum



Figures 1–8. Holotype, female *Ophrella lingulata*, new species. 1. Fore wing. 2. Hind wing. 3. Head, front view. 4. Antenna. 5. Mid-tibia, lateral view. 6. Abdominal segments, ventral apex, semi-lateral view. 7. Mesoscutellum. 8. Hind femur and tibia, lateral view.

finely reticulate. Anterior mesonotum inflated, posteriorly flattened with a median and two lateral conspicuous narrow furrows (Fig. 7). Except in these furrows and the anterior, swollen portion, the mesonotum has very small, recumbent hairs each from a tiny pit, imparting a silvery sheen to the flattened area of the meso-

notum. Scutellum obtusely rounded in front and rear without carinate margins, and the deep, contiguous pits lack hairs, thus appearing darker (Fig. 7). The wings are strongly contrasting black and white, and in the living adult in repose, must greatly give the impression of an ant with its constricted abdomen. The presence of small patches of white scales tend to emphasize the contrast with the dark wing areas. The venation is quite similar to that of *Ophrynella nigricans* but differs in that cross vein cu-a arises from the middle of the discoidal cell not interstitially with vein M, and the white scales on the fore wings of *Ophrella* become in *Ophrynella* normal hairs below the stigma, and absent at the base of the wings. Cross vein between Rs and M is present in *O. nigricans*, but absent in *Ophrella*. Anterior femur without lateral longitudinal carina and is ventrally smooth (Fig. 8) not dentate. Basal segment of anterior tarsus one quarter longer than apical two segments combined. Mid-tarsus with a single row of 8–9 spurs, becoming a double row on the hind tibia. The carinae bordering the ovipositor are smoothly rounded gradually rising to their highest posteriorly, adjacent to the saw sheaths.

*Male*.—Unknown.

*Larva*.—Unknown.

*Host*.—Unknown.

*Holotype*.—Female, Panama, Canal Zone “Plantation Rd” C29, 6.5 km ENE Gamboa, 9°8'N, 79°39'W. August 5, 1978, H. A. Hespenheide, collector. Deposited in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.

*Discussion*.—The species name is derived from the Latin *lingulatus*, tongue-like, which refers to the flattened hairs found on the front of the head.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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#### LITERATURE CITED

- Middlekauff, W. W. 1984. A revision of the sawfly family Orussidae for North and Central America (Hymenoptera: Symphyta, Orussidae). Univ. Calif. Publ. Ent., 101:1–46.